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SONIC UNIVERSE™

SHATTERED

#**1**

**BRAND
NEW
STORY
ARC!**

SONIC UNIVERSE | 87



*Travis Walker
#HERP*



Welcome to the Sonic Comic Universe—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where Knuckles the Echidna and Amy Rose seek out the final missing Master Emerald shards!

**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**

SONIC UNIVERSE™



KNUCKLES
GUARDIAN OF THE
MASTER EMERALD



AMY ROSE
HIGH-SPIRITED HEROINE



TEAM DARK
SHADOW, ROUGE
& E-123 OMEGA



???

THE STORY SO FAR...

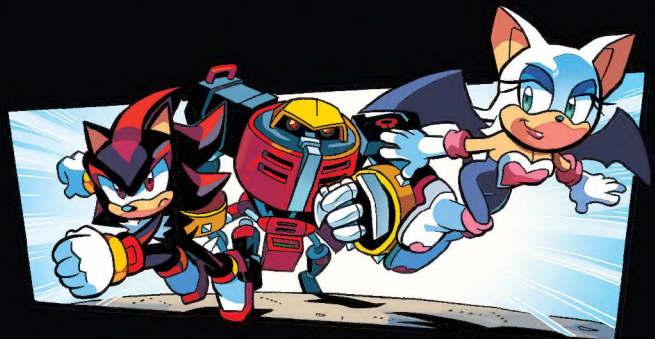
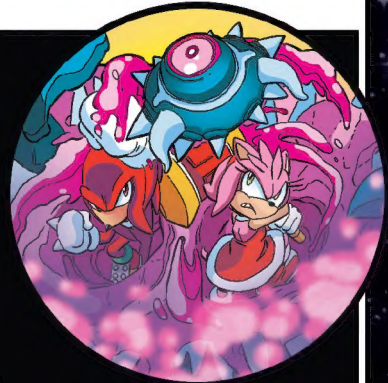
DUAL SEARCH

Recently, Knuckles was forced to shatter the Master Emerald to keep it out of enemy hands!

Now he's hunting down its many pieces. Amy Rose volunteered to lend a hand in finding the shards.

Team Dark—Shadow, Rouge and Omega—recently foiled an alien invasion. They're currently hunting down the aliens' last living weapons—Eclipse and his Dark Arms.

In a twist of fate, both teams will come together to recover what they've lost. However, some things are best left unfound...



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Shattered

PART ONE

CLOSING IN

KNUCKLES
HUNTING DOWN THE
MASTER EMERALD
SHARDS



HANG
ON,
LITTLE
GUY!

CLOSING IN

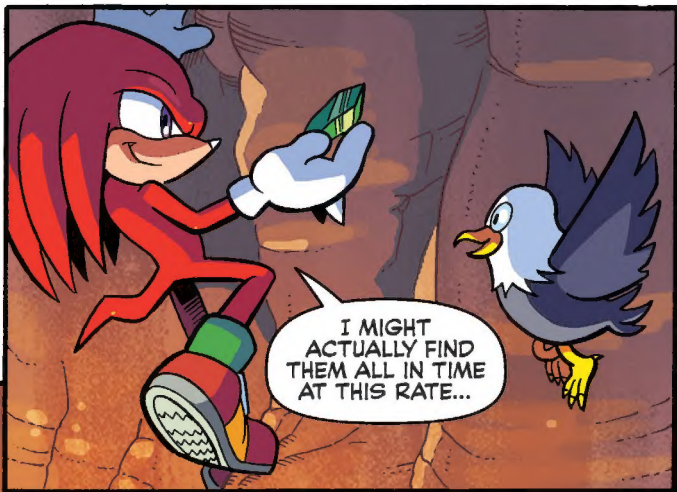
Writer: IAN FLYNN / Pencils: ADAM BRYCE THOMAS / Inks: JIM AMASH / Colors: MATT HERMS
Letters: JACK MORELLI / Cover By: TRACY YARDLEY & HERMS / & "Knuckles" Variant By: RAFA KNIGHT
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Publisher & Co-CEO: JON GOLDWATER / Special thanks to: SANDRA JO, MAI KIYOTAKI
and to the Character Business and Licensing Dept. at SEGA Corporation



DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS AROUND HERE?



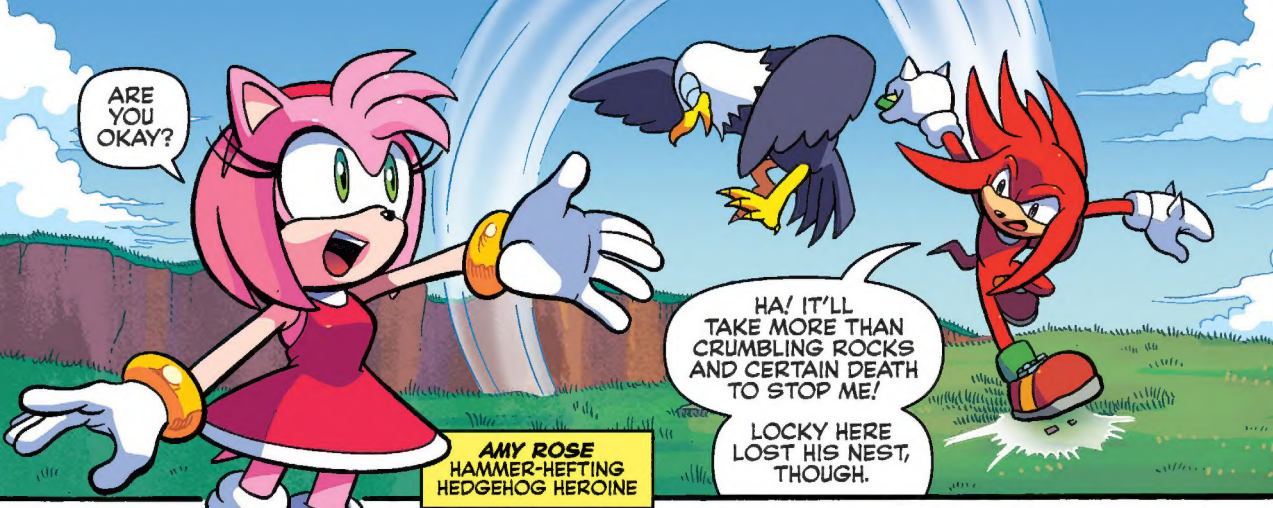
YOU'RE SAFE NOW. LOOKS LIKE YOU HAD ONE OF THE MISSING MASTER EMERALD SHARDS!



I MIGHT ACTUALLY FIND THEM ALL IN TIME AT THIS RATE...



C'MON! WE'LL RIDE THIS UPDRAFT TO THE TOP!



ARE YOU OKAY?

HA! IT'LL TAKE MORE THAN CRUMBLING ROCKS AND CERTAIN DEATH TO STOP ME!

LOCKY HERE LOST HIS NEST, THOUGH.

AMY ROSE
HAMMER-HEFTING
HEDGEHOG HEROINE



THE POOR THING!

YOU OKAY?



I'M GLAD YOU'RE FINE! I CAN'T EXPLAIN YOUR SENSE OF DÉJÀ VU THOUGH...



...WAIT, WAS THAT THE ONLY SHARD?

YEAH.

COULD MORE MAYBE HAVE FALLEN WHEN...?

IT'S THE ONLY ONE NEAR US. TRUST ME, I CAN SENSE THEM.



ALL RIGHT. IT'S JUST.. WE DETECTED THAT THE REST OF THE SHARDS WERE ON THIS ISLAND...

I KNOW.

AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE GETTING CLOSE TO RESTORING THE WORLD...

I KNOW.



ANGEL ISLAND IS ONLY FLOATING BECAUSE EVERYTHING ELSE IS TOO.

IF WE DON'T RESTORE THE MASTER EMERALD IN TIME, IT'LL FALL STRAIGHT INTO THE PLANET'S MANTLE.

...OR WORSE, ON SOMEWHERE POPULATED...



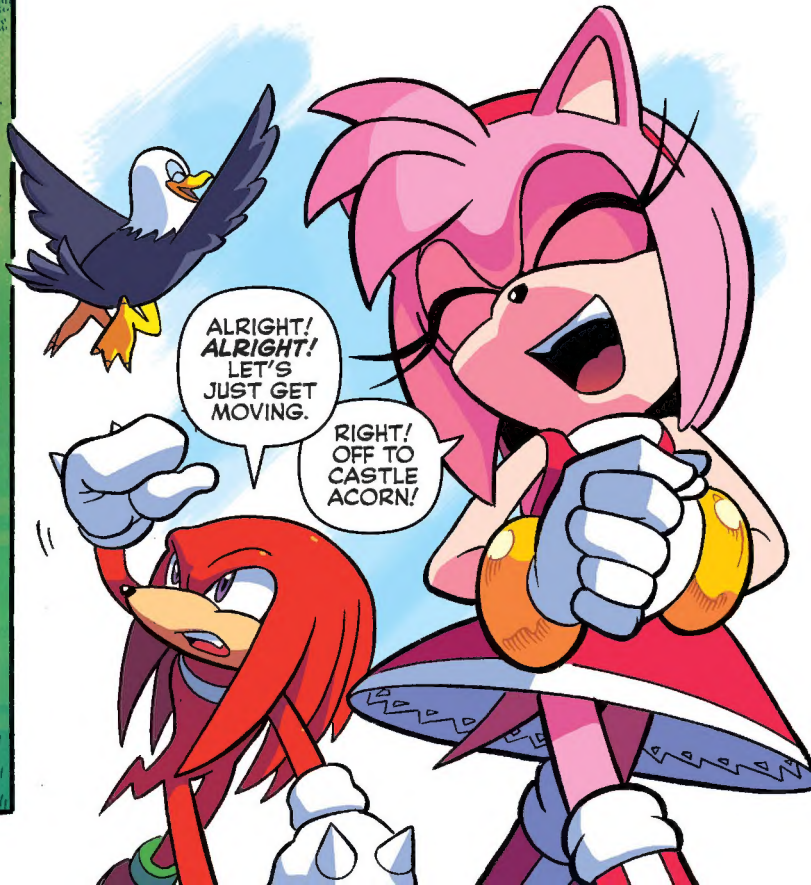
WE STILL HAVE **SOME** TIME. AND WE'VE TRACKED THE REMAINING SHARDS HERE.

IT'LL BE OKAY. I **PROMISE**.



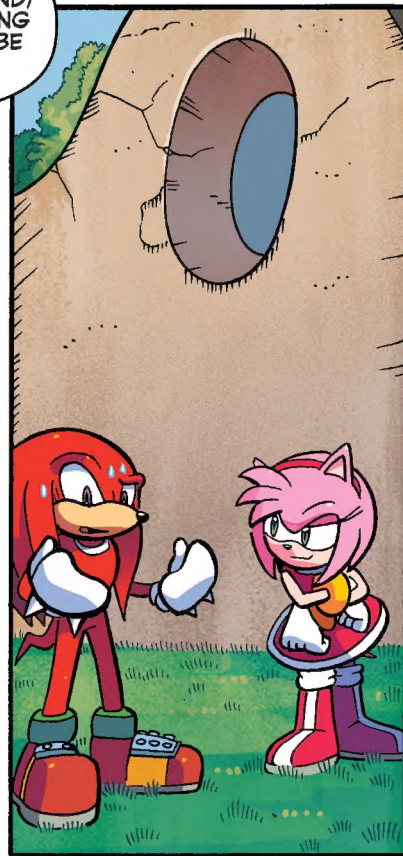
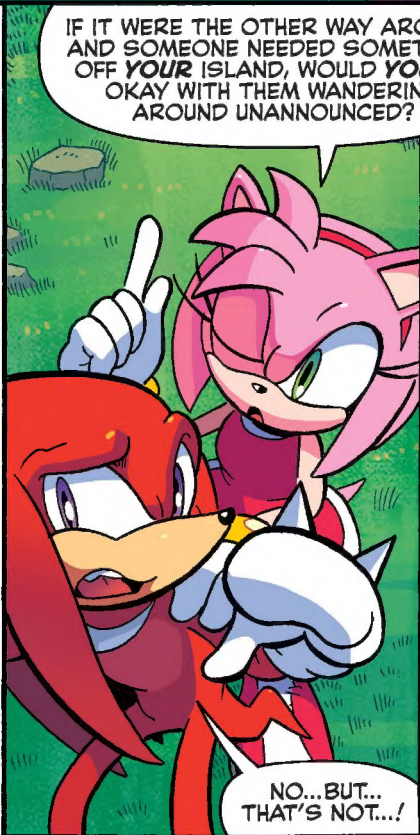
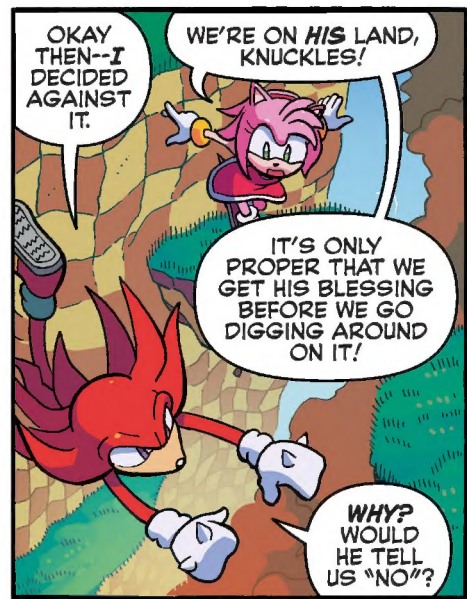
!!

SEE? HE AGREES!



ALRIGHT! ALRIGHT! LET'S JUST GET MOVING.

RIGHT! OFF TO CASTLE ACORN!



SOON, INSIDE CASTLE ACORN...

Oh, NOT THESE JERKS AGAIN.

E-123 OMEGA "REFORMED" SUPER BADNIK

MISS ROSE! WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE. I WAS JUST ABOUT FINISHED WITH TEAM DARK.

KING ACORN RULER OF THE ACORN ARCHIPELAGO

SHADOW THE HEDGEHOG DARK HERO

ROUGE THE BAT SPY & TREASURE HUNTER

AND YOU MUST BE KNUCKLES? I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE. SMASHING DUEL WITH SONIC DURING THE TOURNAMENT!*

Oh, Uh, THANKS. DO I BOW OR...?

A HAND-SHAKE WILL DO.

*STH #268-271

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO MOBOTROPOLIS? I THOUGHT YOU WERE WITH THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTERS?

I WAS, BUT I'VE JOINED KNUCKLES ON AN URGENT MISSION. WE CAME TO ASK YOUR PERMISSION TO SEARCH YOUR LANDS FOR THE MASTER EMERALD SHARDS.

REALLY NOW! TEAM DARK WAS ASKING FOR SIMILAR CLEARANCE.

I FEEL ANOTHER TEAM-UP COMING ON! WON'T THAT BE FUN?



...I SENSE SOME HOSTILITY.



"SOME"? MAYBE BECAUSE THESE THREE TRIED TO **STEAL** THE MASTER EMERALD, FORCED ME TO SHATTER IT, AND GOT ME INTO THIS MESS IN THE FIRST PLACE!



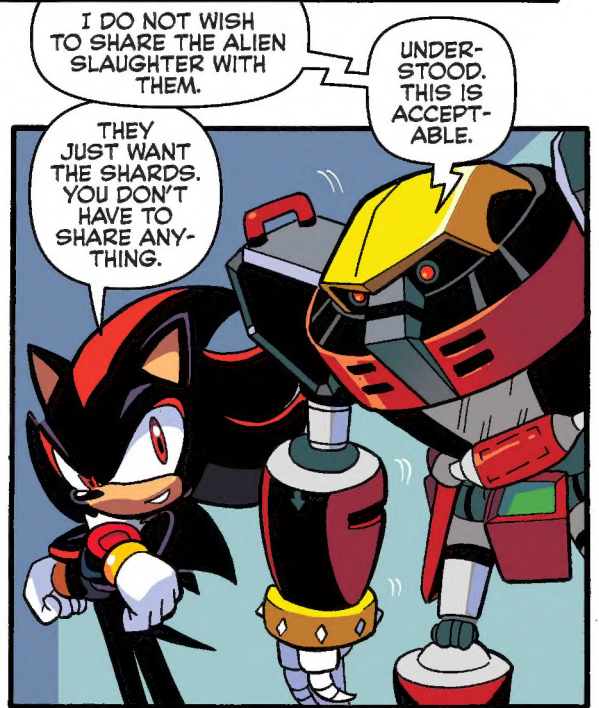
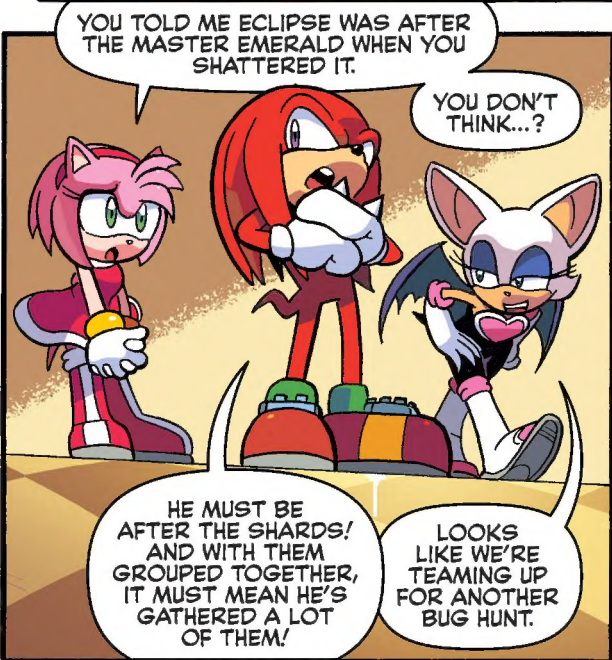
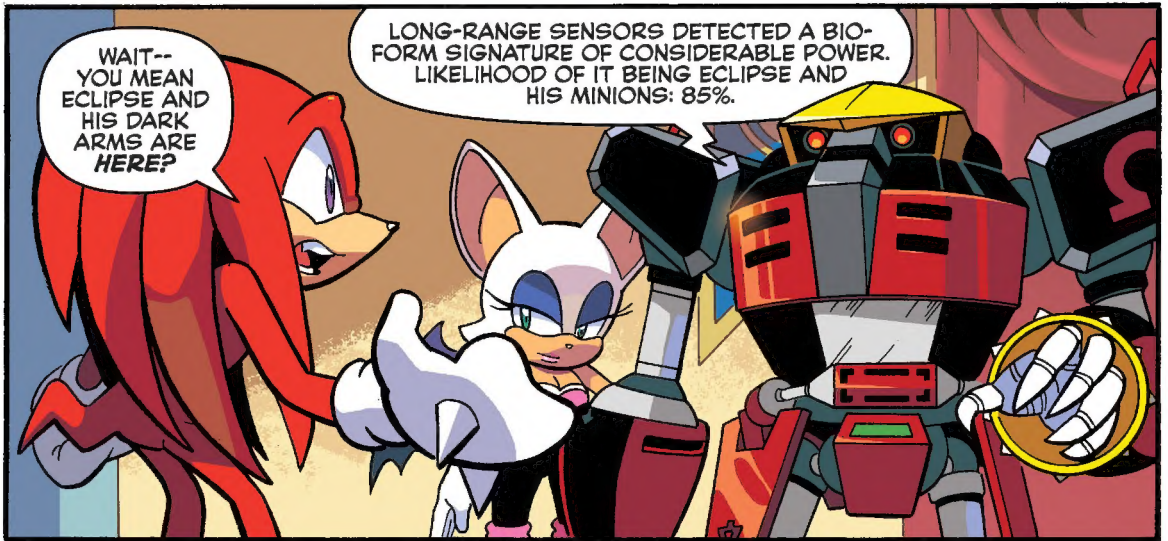
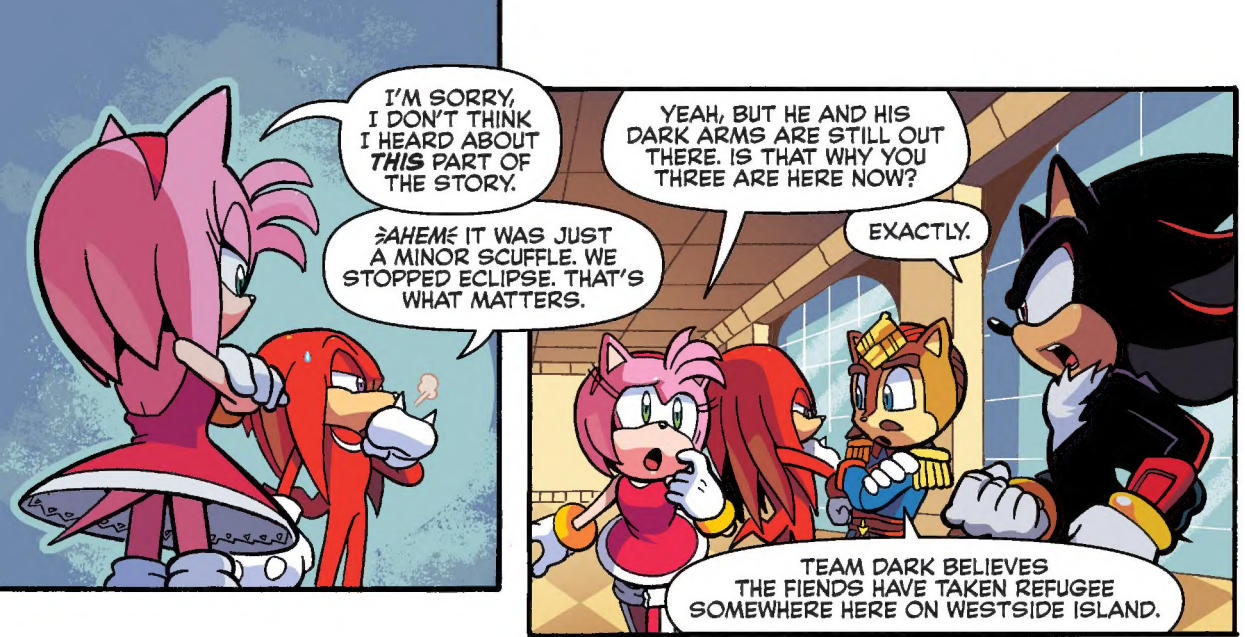
WE WERE TRYING TO **SECURE** IT FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD.

AND WE **ALL** ALMOST DIED BECAUSE YOU TWO GOT DISTRACTED BEATING EACH OTHER UP. BUT THAT'S **BEHIND** YOU NOW SINCE THERE'S BIGGER ISSUES AT HAND--**RIGHT?**

...HE CALLED ME A **JERK**.



YEAH... WELL... YOU **ARE**.





THEN IT'S SETTLED! ALL WE NEED IS YOUR ROYAL BLESSING AND WE'LL GET TO WORK!

OF COURSE. AND THE OPENNESS OF YOUR REQUEST IS APPRECIATED...

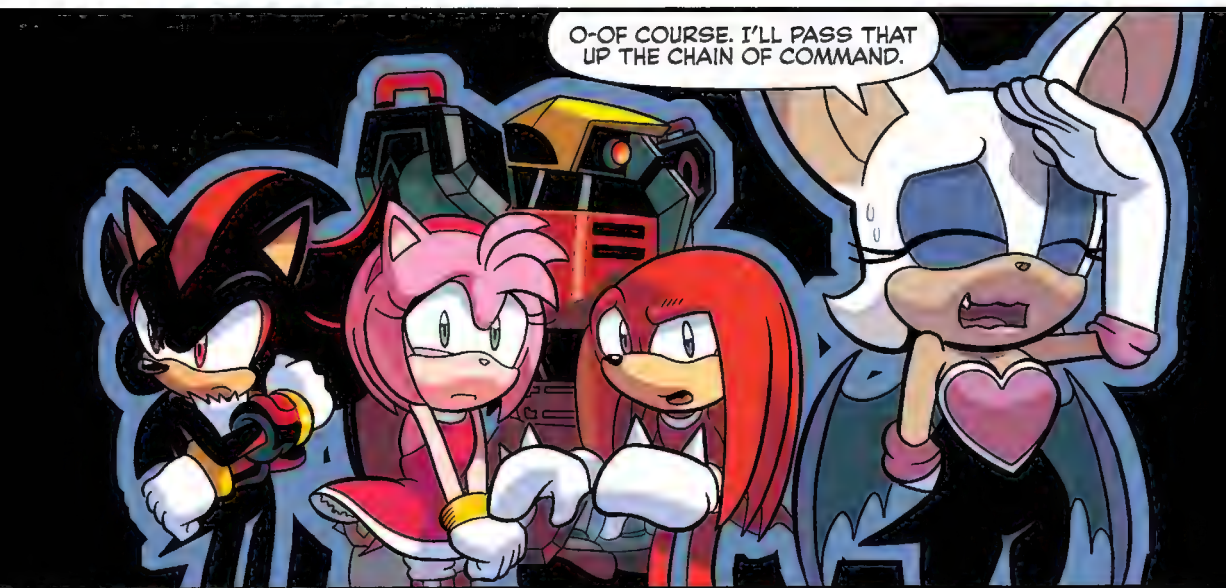
...BUT I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED I'M ONLY BEING INFORMED NOW. THE BLACK ARMS THREATENED ALL OF US, AND SO EVERYONE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THEIR THREAT.

COMMANDER TOWER HAS MY DEEPEST RESPECT. HE HAD DONE MUCH TO REFORM G.U.N., BUT THE OLD REGIME STILL CASTS A LONG SHADOW.

THE G.U.N. OF OLD PUT MY FATHER ON EDGE. IT MADE ME WARY ENOUGH TO TRUST DR. EGGMAN AND DR. SNIVELY ONCE.* I WOULD BE VERY DISAPPOINTED IF THINGS WERE TO SLIP BACK TO THEIR OLD WAYS.

AM I CLEAR?

*SONIC SUPER DIGEST #12

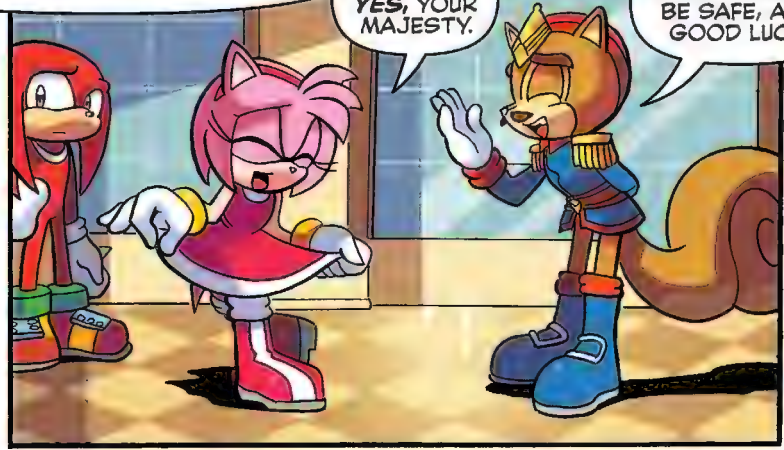


O-O OF COURSE. I'LL PASS THAT UP THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.

SMASHING! MISS ROSE, WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO ACT AS THE KINGDOM'S LIAISON DURING THE MISSIONS?

SURE! I MEAN-- YES, YOUR MAJESTY.

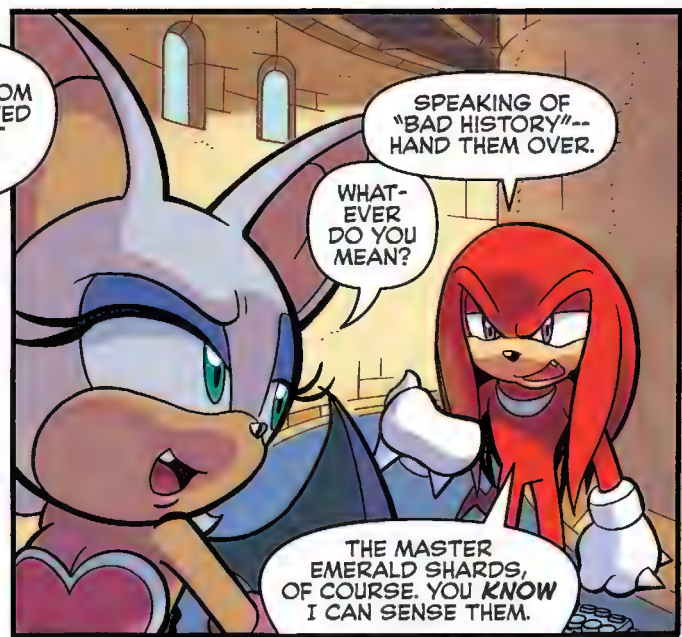
YOU HAVE OUR ROYAL THANKS. BE SAFE, AND GOOD LUCK.





BRRR!
WHAT WAS *THAT*?
HE ALWAYS COMES
ACROSS AS SUCH
A JOLLY GUY...

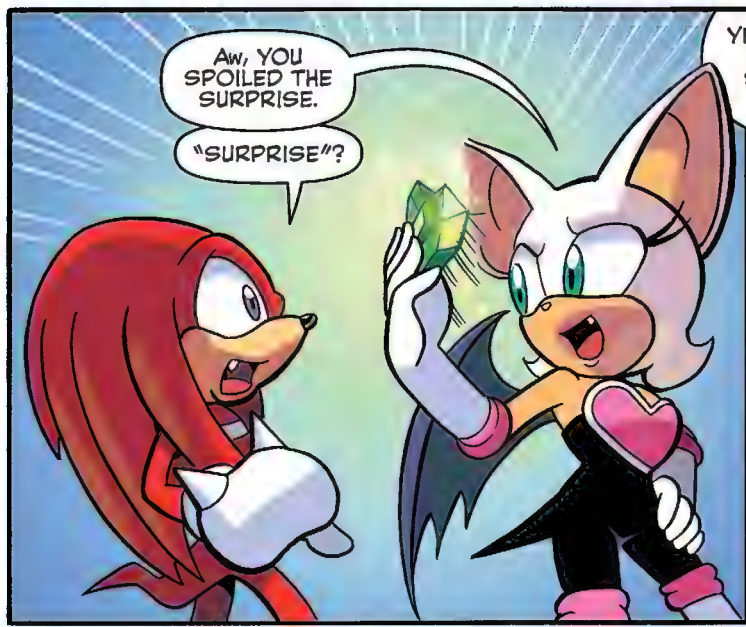
I KNOW, RIGHT?
I GUESS THE KINGDOM
OF ACORN AND UNITED
FEDERATION MUST
HAVE SOME BAD
HISTORY...?



SPEAKING OF
"BAD HISTORY"--
HAND THEM OVER.

WHAT-
EVER
DO YOU
MEAN?

THE MASTER
EMERALD SHARDS,
OF COURSE. YOU *KNOW*
I CAN SENSE THEM.



Aw, YOU
SPOILED THE
SURPRISE.

"SURPRISE"?



YES. I FOUND THEM WHILE WE WERE
HUNTING ECLIPSE. I WANTED TO
SURPRISE YOU WITH THEM ONCE
YOU'D FOUND THE OTHERS.
Oh, WELL--SPOIL SPORT.

YOU'RE--
OOP!--JUST
GIVING THEM
TO ME?



I'VE GOT A JOB
TO FOCUS ON,
HANDSOME. I CAN'T
CHASE AFTER
YOUR EMERALD
RIGHT NOW.



...I'M
NOT SURE
IF THAT'S
REASSURING
OR WORRI-
SOME.

IT'S THREE MORE SHARDS
WE DON'T HAVE TO LOOK
FOR. BE THANKFUL!

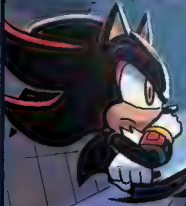
SOON, AT THE ROYAL AIRFIELD...

IF YOU'RE JOINING US, YOU MAY AS WELL RIDE WITH US.

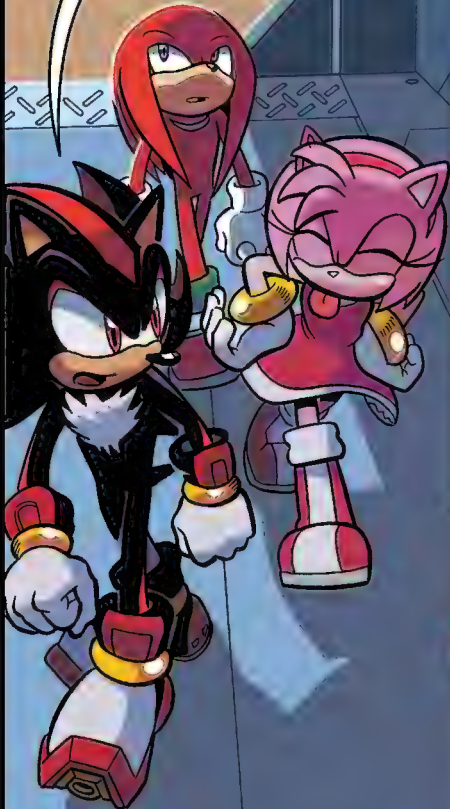
AN OFFICIAL G.U.N. SHUTTLE! FANCY!



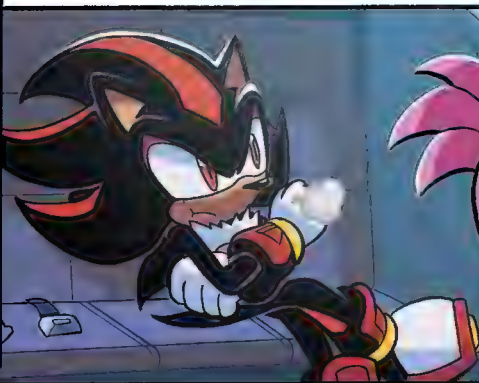
DON'T BE MEAN! THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS ARE WORKING REALLY HARD TO GET EVERYTHING NEEDED TO FIX THE PLANET!

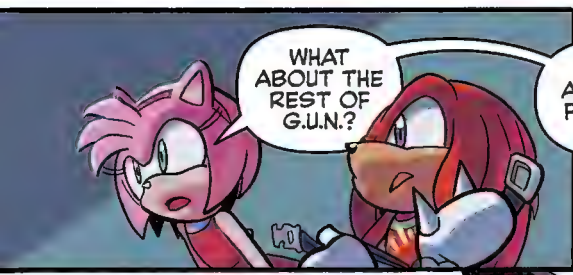


DON'T GET COMFORTABLE. WE'RE ONLY BRINGING YOU FOR THE SAKE OF CONVENIENCE.



SO SONIC IS RUNNING TO THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE MAP, HAVING ADVENTURES AND SAVING THE WORLD...AGAIN..?





WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF G.U.N.?

ARE THEY ALL LOOKING FOR ECLIPSE TOO?



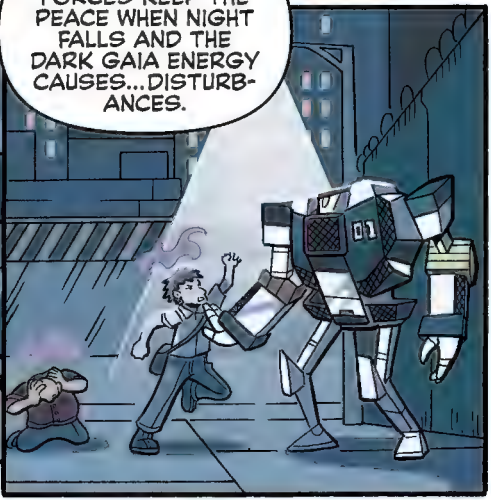
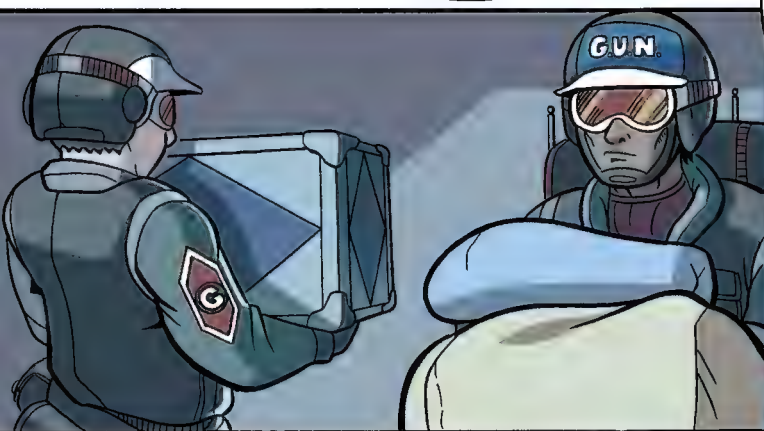
NO. THE AIR FLEET HAS BEEN DEPLOYED TO THE SEVEN LARGEST CHUNKS OF THE SHATTERED WORLD.



THEIR PERSONNEL ARE HANDLING FALLOUT FROM THE CONTINENTAL SPLITS, PROVIDING SURVIVAL GEAR TO THOSE DISPLACED BY THE CRISIS, AND SO ON.



THE MECHANICAL FORCES KEEP THE PEACE WHEN NIGHT FALLS AND THE DARK GAIA ENERGY CAUSES...DISTURBANCES.



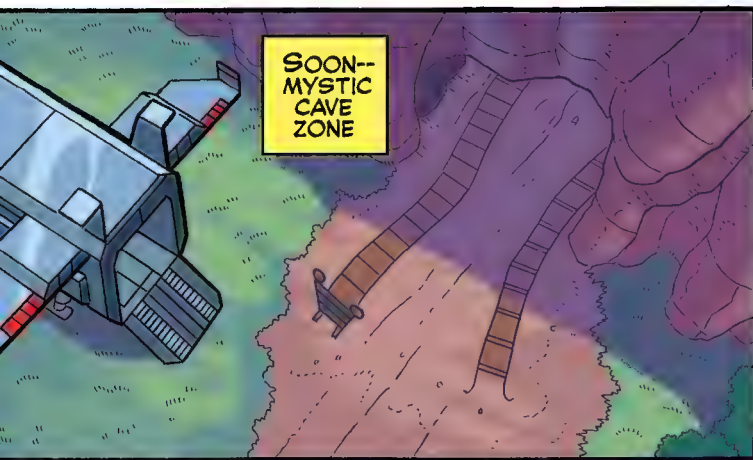
WOW. ALL THAT ALMOST MAKES OUR EFFORTS SOUND TRIVIAL.



Hmph. G.U.N. WILL KEEP THE WORLD SECURE WHILE SONIC AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS SAVE IT. THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT.



WHICH LEAVES JUST ME AND AMY TO SAVE ANGEL ISLAND...



SOON--
MYSTIC
CAVE
ZONE



KEEP YOUR
GUARD UP.

WE ARE ON A "SHOOT FIRST, ASK
QUESTIONS NEVER" POLICY.

THAT'S "ASK
QUESTIONS
LATER."

MY WAY IS
MORE SUCCINCT.



BIOFORM
SIGNATURE
DETECTED
FURTHER
DOWN.



KNUCKLES?

I CAN SENSE
THE LAST THREE
SHARDS... THEY'RE
DOWN THERE.





WOW. WHO KNEW ALL THIS WAS DOWN HERE? THIS PLACE ALMOST GIVES ANGEL ISLAND A RUN FOR ITS MONEY...

KNUCKLES... THERE'S ONLY ONE MASTER EMERALD, RIGHT?

YEAH. WHY?

THEN WHAT IS THAT?!

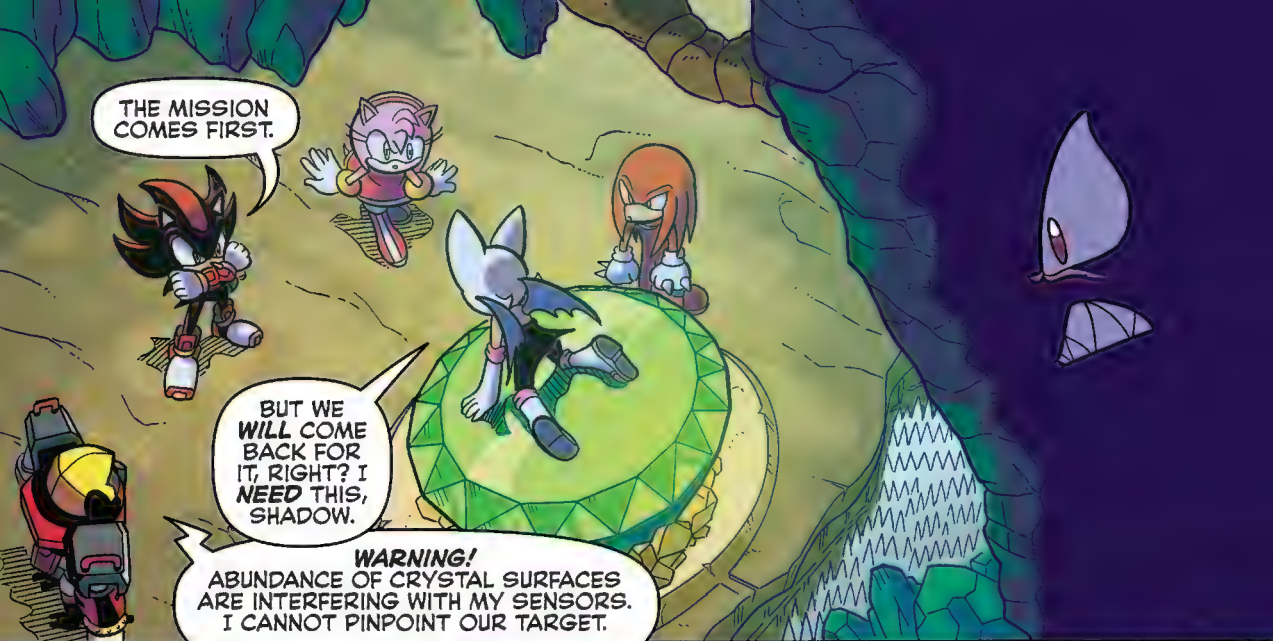
IT'S GORGEOUS!

WHAT IN THE WORLD...?

IT CERTAINLY LOOKS LIKE THE MASTER EMERALD...

...BUT I DON'T DETECT ANY POWER COMING FROM IT. IT'S... JUST A BIG ROCK.

THEN YOU DON'T NEED IT, RIGHT? IT'S ALL MINE, THEN!



THE MISSION COMES FIRST.

BUT WE WILL COME BACK FOR IT, RIGHT? I NEED THIS, SHADOW.

WARNING!
ABUNDANCE OF CRYSTAL SURFACES ARE INTERFERING WITH MY SENSORS. I CANNOT PINPOINT OUR TARGET.



THAT'S NO GOOD. DO OUR COMMS STILL WORK?

AFFIRMATIVE.

THEN WE CAN KEEP IN TOUCH AT LEAST. WE'LL COVER MORE GROUND IF WE SPLIT UP.



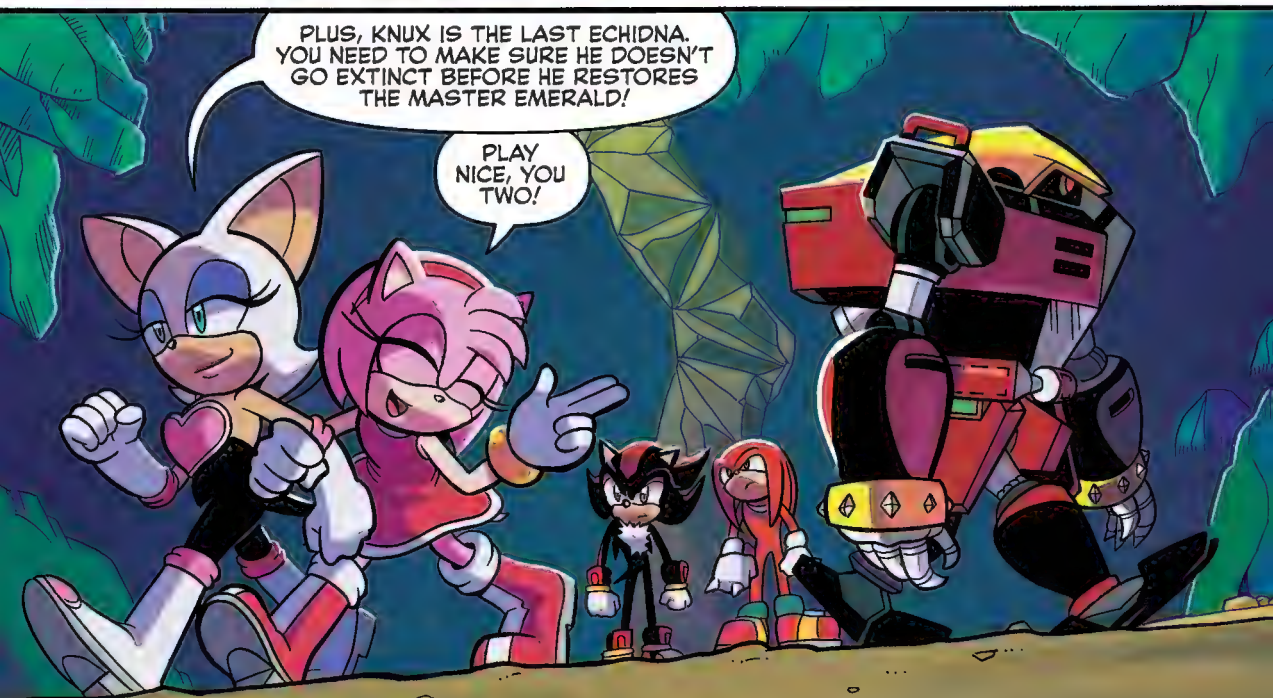
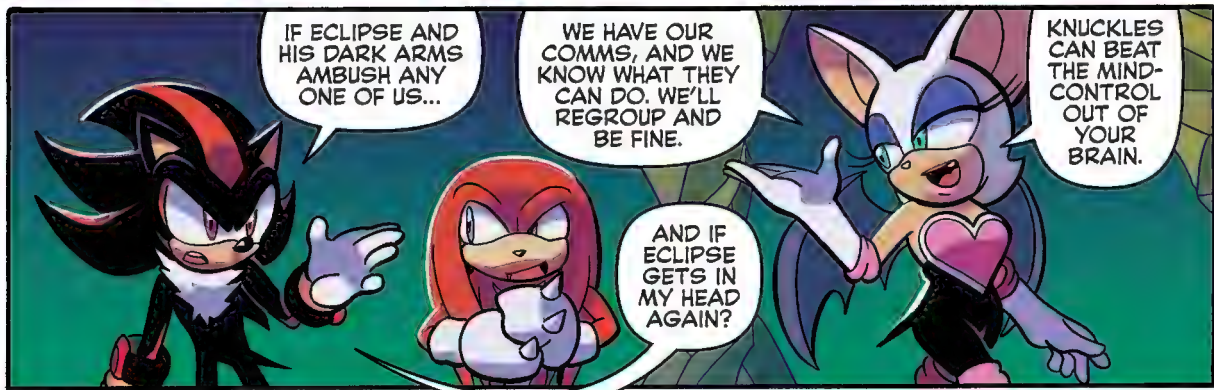
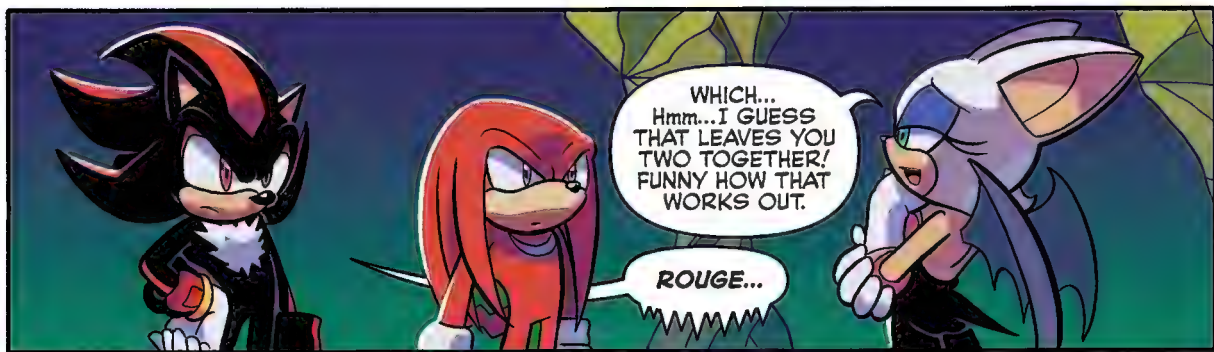
AMY COMES WITH ME. IT'S ONLY RIGHT THE KING'S LIAISON KEEP AN EYE ON THE SUPER-SHADY SPY, RIGHT?

HAHA! WELL, I... YOU SAID IT, NOT ME!



OMEGA, YOU CAN HANDLE YOURSELF. IF YOU FIND THE TARGETS FIRST, TRY TO LEAVE SOME FOR THE REST OF US.

NO PROMISES. I AM PACKING HEAVY ORDINANCE.



SOON...

EVEN THE BRIDGE IS MADE OF GEMSTONES! SO MANY BAUBLES, SO LITTLE TIME...

YOU GIVE KNUCKLES AND SHADOW A HARD TIME ABOUT THEM WORKING TOGETHER, BUT YOU'RE THE ONE GETTING BEDAZZLED. REMEMBER THE KILLER ALIENS?

YES, WELL, GEMS ARE A WEAKNESS OF MINE. I'M STILL FOCUSED ON THE JOB.

MOSTLY.

SO I SHOULDN'T POINT OUT THERE'S ANOTHER FAKE MASTER EMERALD?

THIS PLACE IS HEAVEN!

KRIK-SLAM

Krik-SHINK

Krik-SHINK

Krik-SHINK



SENSOR STILL BEING SCRAMBLED BY MULTIPLE, GLITTERY SURFACES. DESTROYING ALL SURFACES WOULD RECTIFY PROBLEM.

LIKELIHOOD OF CAUSING FATAL CAVE-IN: 99%. THIS WOULD LOSE TEAM DARK AND HANGERS-ON. THIS WOULD TERMINATE BIOFORM TARGET.

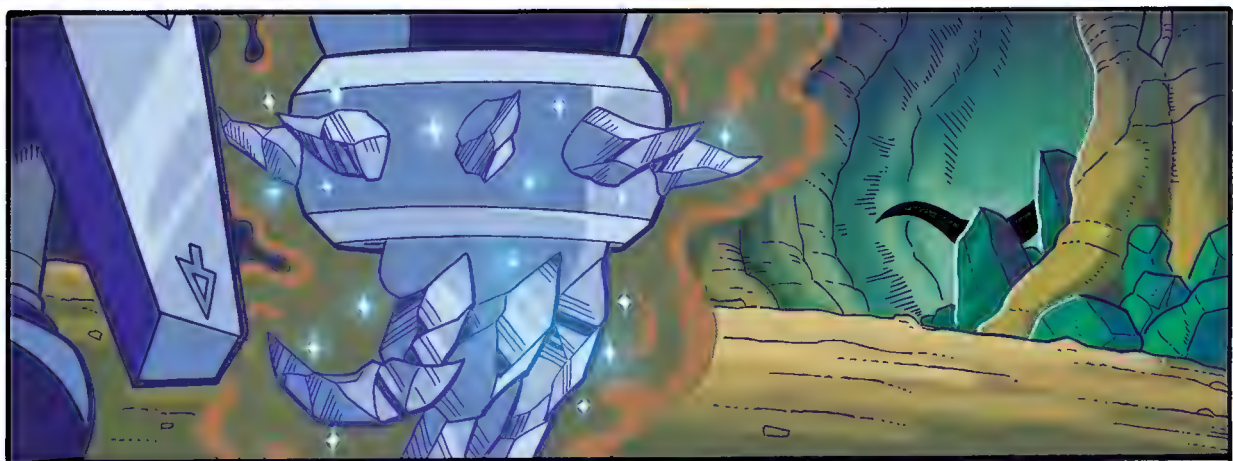
WEIGHING OPTIONS...

YOU'RE ONE OF DR. EGGMAN'S, AREN'T YOU?

NEGATIVE! I AM NOT AFFILIATED WITH DR. EGGMAN! TARGETING!

PROCESSING. YOU ARE NOT ECLIPSE.

FWASH





SORRY IF I
STARTLED YOU. I'M

NIXUS!

I COULDN'T HELP
BUT OVERHEAR
YOUR... CONVERSATION.
NOW--I DON'T KNOW
ANYTHING ABOUT ANY
ALIENS, BUT I'VE BEEN
HUNTING SOME
MASTER EMERALD
SHARDS MYSELF.

**WAIT--
WHAT??!**

WHO IS THIS
KNUCKLES-LOOKING GUY?!
AND WHY IS HE LOOKING
FOR THE SHARDS?
AND WHAT'S BECOME OF
AMY, ROUGE AND OMEGA?
ALL THIS AND MORE--
NEXT TIME!

UNTIL THEN,
DON'T MISS OUT
ON ALL THE ACTION IN
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG,
SONIC SUPER DIGEST
AND THE GRAPHIC
NOVEL LIBRARY!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that's tougher than the rest of 'em!



ABOVE: Cover thumbnail by yours truly and finished inks/color study by Tracy Yardley.



ABOVE: Variant cover mock-up by yours truly and in-progress renders by Rafa Knight.

Let's get crackin'!

The race is on for Knuckles and Amy to restore the Master Emerald and save Angel Island from a potentially horrible fate! Will the inclusion of Team Dark bring luck to our heroes, or will Knuckles and Shadows' egos get the best of them once again? And who is this Nixus?!

I can't say! But I can tell you that we have a series of awesome variant covers for this story arc! Each issue within the "Shattered" storyline features one of four "& Knuckles" variant covers! Visit your local comic shop to get yours **TODAY!**

Peace out!

- Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor



SONIC UNIVERSE™



Kin G.
from Georgia



Amelio W.
from California



Quinn & Delaina G.
from Maine



Gianna T.
from Washington

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OFF PANEL

KNOCK KNOCK AT KNUCKLES



NEXT ISSUE: SONIC UNIVERSE 88



SHATTERED

PART 2 OF 4